

# Existing Works — Recreation Assessment

Category	Year	1987	1988	1988	1988	2004	2004	2004
Major Elements of a General Plan (DPR)		U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)	U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)	Assembly Office of Research (AOR)	National Park Service (NPS) – Alternatives for Restoration	University of California, Davis (UCD)	Environmental Defense (ED)	University of California, Berkeley (UCB)
Physical Resources				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Natural Resources				✓	✓		✓	✓
Cultural Resources								
Interpretive/Educational Resources								
Aesthetic Resources			✓	✓				✓
Recreation resources				✓				
Facilities				✓				
(NPS) Management Goals and Guidelines								
Area Goals and Guidelines								
Carrying capacity				✓				✓

Note: Check mark does not mean information is adequate, only that some discussion or information is available.

# Recreation

## TRENDS FOR RECREATION IN CALIFORNIA

The demand for additional opportunities for recreation in Hetch Hetchy Valley is potentially significant. A 2002 survey of Californian's opinions and attitudes regarding outdoor recreation revealed that Californians' participation and demand for outdoor recreation is considerable.

### Latent Recreation Demand

The survey showed that Californians desire more opportunities for camping in developed sites and trail hiking than are currently available in the state.

- There is a strong latent demand-recreation that would take place if opportunities were available for all forms of camping (developed, primitive, and backpack camping) in California.
- Trail hiking and walking are recreation activities which also possess a high latent demand.

Other top latent demand outdoor recreation activities with applicability to Hetch Hetchy Valley (whether the reservoir is retained or not) include the following:

- wildlife viewing (such as bird watching),
- picnicking,
- visiting outdoor nature displays,
- and visiting historical sites.

These strong demand figures suggest that the public would welcome additional hiking and walking trails as well as additional camping opportunities.

### Surging Population

Concurrent with the above described unmet demand, California's population is increasing dramatically.

- In the year 2000, California's population was approximately 34 million.
- According to the California Department of Finance, by 2050, California's population will be approximately 55 million.
- If these estimates hold true, this growth represents a 62% increase in the state's population over the next 50 years.

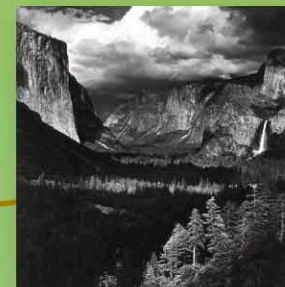
It could be a fair extrapolation from these data to assert that the demand for additional opportunities for recreation will increase as a result of population growth.

### Summary of Recreation Trends

Growth in the participation rates for many outdoor recreation activities combined with the growing number of Californians will put pressure on providers of recreation activities to make available additional opportunities.



Hetch Hetchy Valley Before Construction  
Photographer: Unknown



Yosemite Valley  
Photographer: Ansel Adams



THE HETCH  
HETCHY  
STUDY

resources  
AGENCY



THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION